

Message Text

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ORIGIN DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCI-06 EB-11 COME-00 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07

NSF-04 /090 R

66616

DRAFTED BY DOT/TPI-42:BARAMUNDO

APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:SPOLANSKY

DOT/TPI-1:RHBINDER

SCI/SA:OGANLEY

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R 182146Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205684

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, TECH, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT: TRANSPORT OF THE FUTURE

REF: (A) STATE 179037 (B) MOSCOW 13534

1. DOT PROPOSAL REFLECTED ITS CONCERN THAT SOVIET SUGGESTION, CONTAINED IN PAPER ON NUMBER OF SUBJECTS HANDED TO DEPT, MIGHT LEAD TO ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORTATION OF FUTURE BEFORE FALL MEETING OF JOINT COMMITTEE. THIS EXPLAINS DOT'S CHARACTERIZATION OF THE SOVIET SUGGESTION AS PREMATURE AND ITS PROPOSAL TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION TO ASSURE THAT WHEN THE WORKING GROUP IS ESTABLISHED IT WOULD BE IN A INFORMED POSITION TO DEVELOP COOPERATIVE PROGRAM. PROPOSAL WAS CONSIDERED RESPONSIVE TO SOVIET INITIATIVE AND ALSO IN KEEPING WITH DOT'S RELUCTANCE TO ACCELERATE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM IN THIS AREA UNTIL IT AWARE OF SOVIET ACTIVITY TO ASSURE THAT THE BENEFITS WILL BE MUTUAL. SINCE ALEKSENKO DOES NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE EXCHANGE OF PAPERS AND SINCE SCHEDULE OF DOT EXPERTS DOES NOT RPT NOT PERMIT THEM TO TRAVEL TO
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MOSCOW FOR OCTOBER TALKS, DOT PROPOSES THAT MEETING OF EXPERTS

BE HELD AS PART OF NOVEMBER JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, AT WHICH
WORKING GROUP WILL BE ESTABLISHED, THEREBY FOLLOWING THE
PATTERN ESTABLISHED DURING MOSCOW MEETING.

2. DOT APPRECIATES ALEKSENKO'S VIEWS CONTAINED PARAS.
5 AND 6 REFTEL B. COMPOSITION OF WORKING GROUP AS WELL AS
OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO ITS ACTIVITIES WILL BE RESOLVED DURING
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING.
KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE205684
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: 42:BARAMUNDO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740262-1151
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740934/aaaabcsu.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN DOTE
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 179037 (B) MOSCOW 13534
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT: TRANSPORT OF THE FUTURE
TAGS: ETRN, TECH, UR, (ALEKSENKO)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005